

TALES OF THE UNUSUAL

STORY/ART BY SUNGDAE OH

MY WIFE'S MEMORIES

EPISODE FOUR




DON'T WORRY,
HONEY

I CALLED HOME AND
SAID I'D BE LATE

.....

NO MATTER WHAT
I SAY, I CAN'T GET A
WORD OUT OF YOU...



COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU DIDN'T
REALLY LIKE ME VERY MUCH WHEN
WE WERE DATING.

IT TOOK ME FOREVER
TO CONVINCE
YOU TO MARRY ME.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA
HOW HARD IT WAS.
HAHA.



IF I KEEP TALKING TO
YOU, LIKE AT THAT
TIME...

WILL YOU ANSWER
ME SOMEDAY...?



I JUST REMEMBERED
THE DAY I PROPOSED TO
YOU.

WE'D BEEN DATING
FOR 4 YEARS, BUT I WAS
SO NERVOUS AND AFRAID...

A black and white illustration of a man and a woman standing under a large black umbrella. The man is on the left, wearing a dark jacket, and the woman is on the right, wearing a light-colored sweater. They are standing in the rain, with raindrops visible around them. The background shows some trees and a building.

HM? LOOKS LIKE
IT STOPPED RAINING...

A black and white illustration of a man and a woman sitting on a bench. The man is on the right, wearing a dark suit and tie, and the woman is on the left, wearing a light-colored jacket. They are both looking towards the right. The background is dark and rainy.

GOOD. MY ARM WAS
GETTING SORE...

SHAKE
SHAKE

HUH..?



MY WIFE'S TALKING TO SOMEONE,





THAT WAS PROBABLY WHEN
THE POLICE CAME TO TAKE HER HOME.



CAN WE
HELP YOU..?



THAT'S HOW MY WIFE MADE IT HOME SAFELY.



NOT LONG AFTER, MY DAUGHTER GOT MARRIED.



THERE WERE SO MANY FRIENDS AND
LOVED ONES AT THE CEREMONY.



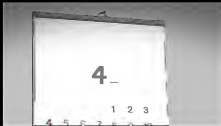
MY SWEET, KIND-HEARTED DAUGHTER HAS
BECOME A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN,



EVEN THOUGH SHE COULDN'T BE HERE,
I KNOW MY WIFE WOULD BE SO PROUD.



AND SO THE SEASONS WENT ON CHANGING



AND BEFORE I KNEW IT, 2 YEARS HAD PASSED.



I HAD KEPT TRACK OF THE DATE, AND
I REALIZED THAT NOW MY WIFE WOULD'VE
ONLY HAD AROUND ONE YEAR LEFT TO LIVE.



AROUND THIS TIME, MY WIFE'S CONDITION WAS
GETTING WORSE AND WORSE SO
SHE SPENT MOST OF HER TIME AT HOME,

SHE COULDN'T EVEN RECOGNIZE HER OWN FAMILY,
AND EVEN DOING SIMPLE HOUSEHOLD
CHORES WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE.



A man and a woman are sitting on the floor in a room, facing a television. The man is on the left, wearing a grey shirt and dark pants. The woman is on the right, wearing a white shirt and a headscarf. The television is on a stand in the background. A speech bubble from the man says "TIME FOR THE NEWS."

TIME FOR
THE NEWS.

I'D HEARD THAT WATCHING TV ISN'T
GOOD FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA,
SO I ONLY WATCHED THE NEWS
FOR A LITTLE BIT IN THE EVENING.



A news anchor is shown on a television screen. The anchor is a man with grey hair, wearing a suit and tie. He is speaking into a microphone. A speech bubble from him says "HOUSEHOLD DEBT IS NOW REACHING RECORD-BREAKING HEIGHTS."

HOUSEHOLD
DEBT IS NOW
REACHING
RECORD-BREAKING
HEIGHTS.

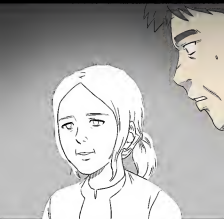
AN INCREASING
NUMBER OF
HOUSEHOLDS ARE
TAKING OUT LARGE
LOANS.

NOT VERY
INTERESTING,
EH?

SHOULD
WE WATCH A
SHOW YOU LIKE?



AND AT THAT MOMENT,





FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2 YEARS, MY WIFE'S
EXPRESSIONLESS FACE CHANGED TO A SMILE.



SON,
TURN ON THE
COMPUTER!

A man with dark hair and a grey shirt is shouting. In the background, a door is closed with a large 'SLAM' sound effect written on it. To the right, a younger man with dark hair and a white shirt is looking back at him with a surprised expression.

SLAM

WHAT?



The man in the grey shirt is sitting at a desk, looking at a laptop. The younger man in the white shirt stands behind him, looking at the screen. The laptop screen shows a dark image with a speech bubble.

I'M JUST LOOKING
FOR A NEWS ARTICLE.

THIS IS FROM
EXACTLY
3 YEARS AGO.

BUT WHY...?

THE TV WAS IN THE SAME SPOT 3 YEARS AGO.
SHE MUST'VE SEEN SOMETHING ON TV
THAT MADE HER SMILE.



EXACTLY 3 YEARS AGO, THE SHOW
THAT WAS PLAYING AT THIS MOMENT..
WHAT COULD IT BE..?

WE'RE SURE
STARTING TO FEEL
SOME SPRING
WEATHER HERE.



A person wearing a red jacket and a black hat is walking along a path in a park. The trees are covered in bright yellow leaves, suggesting autumn. The scene is captured in a stylized, hand-drawn illustration style.

THE FLOWERS
BLOOMING ARE
A SURE SIGN THAT
SPRING HAS COME.

YOU CAN SEE IT IN THE SMILES OF
PEOPLE AS THEY WALK
THROUGH THE PARKS, TAKING
IN THE FRAGRANT SMELL
OF THE GARDENS.

A person wearing a red jacket and a black hat is walking along a path in a park. The trees are covered in bright yellow leaves, suggesting autumn. The scene is captured in a stylized, hand-drawn illustration style.

TODAY'S GOING TO BE
A BRIGHT, SUNNY DAY
IN SEOUL WITH A HIGH OF
50 F.





I WISH I HAD
MORE THAT
I COULD OFFER
YOU.

WE MAY HAVE TO
LIVE OFF OF CHEAP
NOODLES FOR THE
REST OF OUR LIVES.



BUT IF YOU CAN
ACCEPT ME AS I AM...
WILL YOU MARRY ME...?



BE MORE
SERIOUS~I

CANCEL THAT
PROPOSAL~I





SHE REMEMBERED.



SHE MAY HAVE FORGOTTEN
WHO I AM, BUT SHE STILL
REMEMBERED THAT DAY.



ONE DAY, MY SON CAME HOME WITH SOME NEWS.





DAEJEON..
I SEE.

I'LL PROBABLY BE
THERE FOR
AROUND 3 YEARS.



.....

ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T
WANNA COME WITH ME?
YOU MIGHT GET LONELY.



A grayscale illustration of a man's head and shoulders in profile, facing right. He has dark, short hair and is wearing a collared shirt. A speech bubble is positioned above his head.

I...

A speech bubble with a tail pointing towards the man's mouth.

I'D LIKE TO STAY HERE.

AND SO MY SON WAS GONE AND
I WAS ALONE IN THE HOUSE.







THANK YOU..
DARLING.

I'M AFRAID.

AS TIME GOES ON AND
THE DAY GETS CLOSER,

AM I GOING TO HAVE TO LOSE
MY WIFE AGAIN?

To be continued..